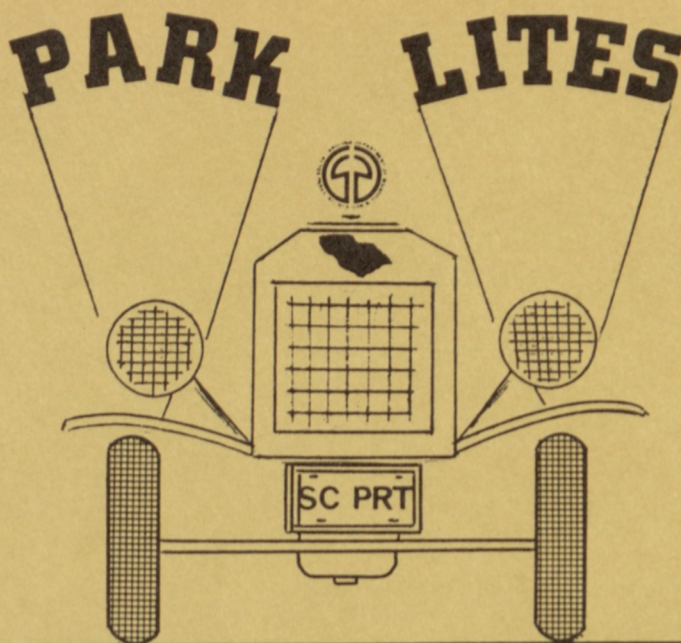


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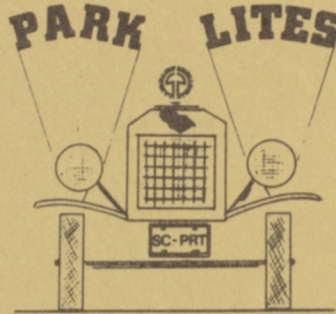
**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND TOURISM**  
**OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER**  
**DIVISION OF STATE PARKS AND RECREATION**

Volume 2 - Number 4

August 1972







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Dana L. Sawyer, Editor

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## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DEPUTY DIRECTORS

## COVER PHOTO:

Where's your favorite swimming hole? This is the swimming area at Table Rock State Park.



## FROM THE DIRECTOR



The summer season of 1972 to date is the most productive one in the history of South Carolina State Parks from both attendance and revenue standpoints. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each one of you--in the Columbia office, at the Service and Supply Center, Field Personnel and members of the Maintenance, Construction and CEP crews--for the extra efforts you have put forth.

As most of you are aware by now, our Documentary Stamp Tax Bill was not acted upon favorably by the past General Assembly. However, our Executive Director Bob Hickman worked day and night to secure support for this legislation, and on behalf of every member of the Division of State Parks we would like to say thanks for a job well done.

I personally feel that through his efforts on the Documentary Stamp Tax Bill we were able to secure the appropriation of \$200,000 for the purchase of the Woods Bay property. This bill was passed on the last day of statewide business.

The Parks Division is losing an able and extremely talented Park Planner. Bill Scott has resigned to accept other employment, and we wish him well in the future.

Our Executive Director recently took a camping trip to Alabama, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri and North Carolina. It was an enlightening experience for Mr. Hickman, and his visit will undoubtedly be reflected in PRT's changing trends.

**RAYMOND M. SISK**

Director  
State Parks and Recreation

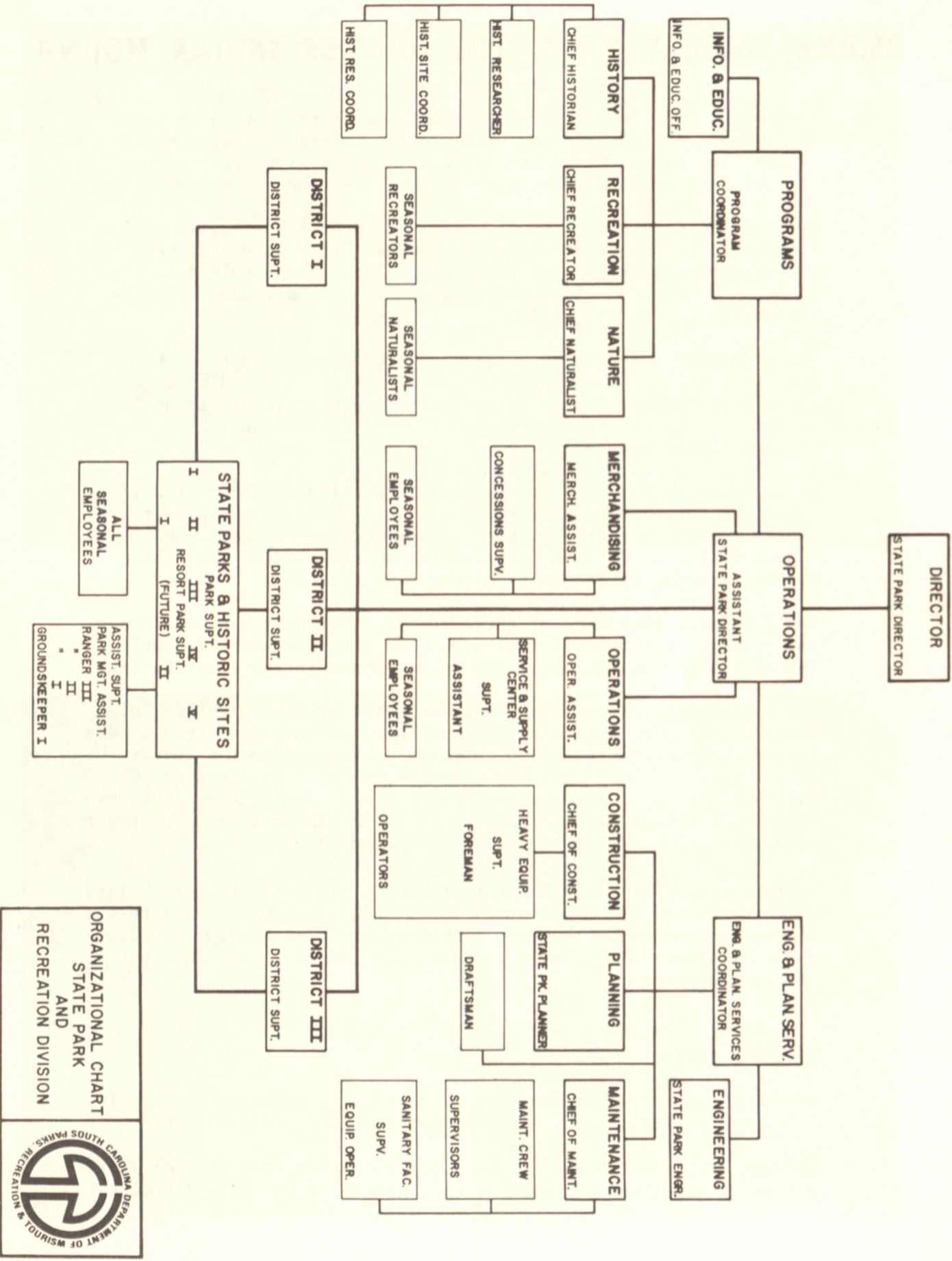
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## SMOKE SIGNALS FROM THE SANTEE INDIAN MOUND

Archeology continues at Santee Indian Mound-Fort Watson in spite of recent weeks of rain and high water. Leland Ferguson, archeologist in charge, has established a base camp for the nine-man crew at Santee State Park, with a satellite camp at the mound.

Over sixty years ago, archeologists camped at the site, intending to conduct an investigation of the mound. They were defeated, however, by a strange sickness. People have since talked in closed conversation about the curse of the mound...the "sleeping sickness."

The mound, which includes an extensive ceremonial complex, has been part of the state parks system since 1950. Often referred to as Fort Watson, Santee Indian Mound represents one of the finest examples in South Carolina of the fully developed agricultural-village Indian period.

In addition to the extensive Indian occupation of the region which began about 1200 A.D., the mound was also the site of an American Revolutionary War fortification...Fort Watson. Colonel John Watson built the British installation on the site of the Indian Mound. Francis Marion captured the fort in 1781.

The site once consisted of three mounds, including two small ones and a larger one some 28 feet high with a square base of nearly 140 feet. One of the small mounds has since eroded into the lake.

The exploratory excavation being conducted by the University of South Carolina's Institute of Archeology and Anthropology has been funded with the assistance of a matching grant from the Department of the Interior, National Park Service, under provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. This project has been made possible through the efforts of the South Carolina Department of Archives and History's survey and planning program.

Archeological work is continuing through July with the possibility of an extension through August. Excavation is conducted Wednesday through Sunday, with one crew member at the site Mondays and Tuesdays. Visitors are welcome to watch the operation and talk with the archeologist.

### OPPOSITE PAGE

(Top) Leland Ferguson, Project Archeologist, explains the remains of an Indian building to a Pennsylvania visitor, Harold Cox.

(Bottom) View of the grid system of excavation from the top of the Indian Mound. Various features can be seen in the soil discoloration.









Youngsters learn a valuable lesson when they "attend classes in the great outdoors." These Boy Scouts are doing some clearing on the nature trail at Kings Mountain State Park. This particular group was supervised by Mr. Howard K. Hunter, District Scout Executive with the Palmetto Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

## THIS IS MY PLEDGE

For 35 years the National Wildlife Federation has worked for wise management of natural resources. To accomplish this purpose, the Federation devised this Conservation Creed. We think it's well worth passing along:

I pledge myself, as a responsible human, to assume my share of man's stewardship of our natural resources.

I will use my share with gratitude, without greed or waste.

I will respect the rights of others and abide by the law.

I will support the sound management of the resources we use, the restoration of the resources we have despoiled and the safekeeping of significant resources for posterity.

I will never forget that life and beauty, wealth and progress depend on how wisely man uses these gifts...the soil, the water, the air, the minerals, the plant life, and the wildlife.

This is my pledge.



## KNOW YOUR STATE PARKS

This feature is usually devoted to the interesting and unusual concerning our parks. However, the staff decided to alter the quiz for this issue. This summer, thousands of out-of-state visitors are on our parks...often asking questions about the Palmetto State. Let's be prepared to answer their questions as we "sharpen up" on our South Carolina history.

1. In 1948, the General Assembly repealed an act recognizing the Mockingbird as the official State Bird and declared the \_\_\_\_\_ the official State Bird.
2. Colonel \_\_\_\_\_ chose the design of the State Flag: the blue matching the color of their uniforms and a crescent which reproduced the silver emblem worn on the front of their caps. The palmetto tree was added after the heroic defense of the palmetto-log fort on Sullivan's Island against the British, June 28, 1776.
3. In 1934, \_\_\_\_\_, author of 83 books, was chosen as Poet Laureate of South Carolina.
4. The State Gem is the \_\_\_\_\_ while the \_\_\_\_\_ is the State Stone.
5. The Roman Corinthian style State House of South Carolina was designed by \_\_\_\_\_. Appropriations for the building have been verified in legislative documents to the amount of \$3,540,000.
6. The Seal of South Carolina was designed by \_\_\_\_\_ with the reverse credited to \_\_\_\_\_.
7. While the song "Carolina" was written by \_\_\_\_\_ in the mid-nineteenth century, it was not officially made the State Song until February 11, 1911.

ANSWERS: 1. Carolina Wren 2. William Moultrie 3. Archibald Rutledge 4. Amethyst, Blue Granite 5. Major John Niersee 6. William H. Drayton, Arthur Middleton 7. Henry Timrod



## THE FIRST HALF

We are more than halfway through this season's summer Naturalist and Recreation programs. Some interesting things have been happening and this seems like a good time to share them with you.

Ol' Lonesome "Ce-Ce" Hawkins at Hunting Island has had Superintendent Tillman Erwin and staff looking for turtles, while Buff Robeson at Cheraw has started weekly hayrides. Pat Probst has fed so many marshmallows to the 'gators at Huntington Beach that Lee Jordan says they are diabetic. Bobby Ramey and Nick Roark have worn out eight pairs of shoes at Oconee's square dances, but not to be outdone by square dances are Larry Feaster and Marshall Brucke of Greenwood. Betty Brucke claims that it's the wildest dance west of Ninety-Six.

Alan Seale found the Stateburg Sabertooth Tiger, even though it turned out to be a large bobcat. As a result, Horace Craig won't go out after dark. Things are humming at Myrtle Beach as Recreator Sandy Tyson and Naturalist Janice Hill are scheduling a full slate of activities. Dennis Gunter, Naturalist turned carpenter, is about to open the Kings Mountain Nature Center and Ron Ross of Sesqui made his TV debut with some live snakes.

Tommy Ashley added an alligator to the collection at the Santee Nature Center but Recreator Gary McKinney thinks the place was OK without it. Bill Leach is starting to enjoy searching for people on the top of Table Rock at night, while Bill Durham is becoming experienced at assembling TimberForm playground equipment. His prior experience included placing a steeple on the chapel in the park.

It's been an exciting summer thus far, and all indications point to more of the same as the days and weeks roll by.



Clemson interns and PRT staff members pause in front of Santee State Park's "Village Round" during an orientation session. The students worked in the Columbia office, at the Service & Supply Center and at a number of the state parks during their internship.



## TALL TALES AND GHOST TALES

Every park has received the second enlarged edition of Tall Tales - Ghost Tales. Patty Smith has been adding tales to the files during the year, thus the new edition includes stories about more parks than the first edition. The History Branch has always been interested in the folk stories concerning our parks and the incidents which have supposedly occurred on them. Likewise, interest has always been strong in knowing more about the little things that make the blood run cold with fear and fright on a summer night. Simple things such as the hoot of an owl, the whine of a cat, the muffled sound of footsteps in the woods, and the high-pitched voice of a woman are the main ingredients in these stories.

The stories have been purposely kept short, but may be lengthened in the telling. Story tellers often use a mountain of material to slay one mouse! Allow the listeners to begin to guess the outcome, giving them the satisfaction of being clever enough to share in solving the mystery or anticipating the conclusion.

A tale is meaningful only when it is shared. Help us to share your tales by adding them to our growing files.

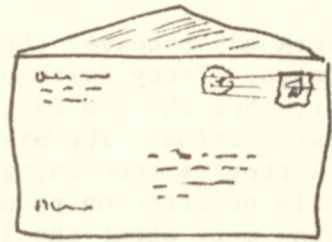
## WHO IS THE SOUTH CAROLINIAN?

(The following excerpt is from the book, South Carolina: A Guide to the Palmetto State. It is presented for your information and amusement. Ed.)

"The South Carolinian has fire in his head, comfort in his middle, and a little lead in his feet. Proud of his past, often scornful of innovations, he is not willing to adapt unless thoroughly convinced that it is a good thing. Not given to the desperate pursuit of wealth, he has time for pleasure and humorous converse. His way of life is leisurely, despite his slack economic habits; and though he progresses slowly, he performs his daily task to the accompaniment of a tune. He knows his faults, at least many of them. He will discuss them and propose remedies...but woe to the outsider who reminds him of them. The faults of his State are as personal to him as a wart on his nose."



## WE GET LETTERS



"My parents, my sister and I had a most enjoyable weekend at Santee State Park. Mr. Barbie was a most gracious host. He gave us a grand tour of the lovely park, which was indeed a marvelous sight to see. Not only were we greatly intrigued with the uniqueness of the cabins, but also the manner in which they were so well kept. The Village Round fascinated us with its beautiful interior. I couldn't help but think how enjoyable conferences could be in such lovely surroundings. We enjoyed delicious meals in a very warm and friendly atmosphere at the Grill.

Abigail Brown, South Carolina State College, Orangeburg

(Miss Brown is "Miss South Carolina State Parks" for 1972. Ed.)

"In touring your state of South Carolina we stopped at your Croft State Park and enjoyed our stay there. We wish to tell you that your park is undoubtedly one of the loveliest places that we have ever stayed...it was a real pleasure and we hope to stop back on our next trip.

R. W. Kimmel, St. Petersburg, Florida

"....It was our privilege to occupy a cabin at Oconee State Park last week and it was such a pleasure that I wanted to write your office to tell you how wonderfully well this park is operated. Everyone was so helpful and cordial, and it was the kind of atmosphere we like for our family. The recreation was planned so well, and it seemed that everyone works together so well as a team. Mr. Cothran certainly is doing a marvelous job and each person seemed to take pleasure in their work there. We hope to go back next year."

Mrs. Wayne Wilson, Starr, South Carolina

"...I would like to commend you and your rangers on the way you handled the state NCHA camp-out at Croft State Park. Your people were most patient and helpful during the rain and especially in helping us out of the mud..."

J. R. Bribes, President, Ashley River Ramblers Camping Club  
Charleston Heights, South Carolina

"...The improvements in our State Parks have been tremendous and have been favorably commented on by many out-of-state tourists..."

Alvin C. Giet, President, Flowertown Campers Club, Summerville



"...Mrs. Rickman and I reserved a cabin and spent a week in Oconee State Park during the month of May. We were tremendously impressed with the cleanliness, the well organized staff, well developed program and tremendous progress that has been made. It is indeed gratifying to know that such a Park is near the campus of Central Wesleyan College. We took special note of the administrative ability of Mr. Cothran, the Superintendent. He has tremendous rapport with his staff and as far as we are concerned our contact and stay in the Park were ideal. It was a joy to know and visit with the Superintendent..."

Claude R. Rickman, President, Central Wesleyan College, Central

"Very often we do make complaints about dirty campgrounds and service at State Parks, but this time I am writing about the wonderful service and cleanliness we found at Myrtle Beach State Park. The superintendent was most cordial and a very hard-working man along with his crew. We are looking forward to going back to this clean and well-managed campground."

Delmont and Florence Merrill, East Falmouth, Massachusetts

"On behalf of the scouts and scouters participating in the Camporee at Chester State Park, I would like to express appreciation for the extra effort your personnel put forth to make our event a success. The ranger assigned to work with us by Supt. Doster was especially courteous. He gave the impression that he enjoyed everything he did for us, even dumping the trash cans."

Frank R. Caldwell III, Commissioner, Boy Scouts of America

(The following note was written on a paper plate and left in Cabin #9 at Hunting Island State Park. Ed.)

"Please feed Ricky and Rachel, two sweet little raccoons. They will eat anything. Please feed them your leftover scraps because they're hungry too. If you don't feed them your scraps, they'll probably get them out of the trash can, and that might make a mess, but they don't mean any harm. Just put food at the bottom of the steps. I hope you enjoy your vacation as much as we did. P.S. They usually come evenings but not always. Sincerely, Last Occupants

"...For a change of pace, we recommend a visit to one or more of the South Carolina parks. The experience could prove comforting, enlightening, restful and informative--an opportunity to learn more of a beautiful state that stretches from the mountains to the sea."

Excerpt from an editorial, Winnsboro News and Herald



## 'FIELD NOTES'

Some interesting "mini-facts" concerning the world of nature:

Dragonflies and damselflies (the small one) both begin their lives as aquatic insects. Dragonflies rest with wings stretched out flat. Damselflies rest with wings parallel with the body. Dragonflies live only a few weeks as adults.

Centipedes and millipedes are commonly called "thousand-legged worms." Centipedes eat insects, slugs, and worms. Millipedes are vegetarians and harmless to humans.

Harvestmen (commonly called "daddy-long-legs") are relatives of the spider (arthropods). Harvestmen feed mainly on living insects, and on dead animals or plant juices. If a harvestman loses one of his legs, he will regrow it.

There are about 180 species of bats in North America. Most bats eat insects, some suck blood, some eat fruit, and one species eat small fish. Some bats hibernate and others migrate.

The horseshoe crab is not a true crab. It is an arthropod (related to spiders and scorpions.) They must molt (shed their old shell) in order to grow. The horseshoe crab shells that are found along the beaches are normally those left behind by a growing youngster.

(Material for this column was contributed by Joe Frank Watson, Operations Assistant for the Division of State Parks and Recreation. Contributions are welcomed from other park personnel for insertion in future "Field Notes" articles. Ed.)



Nick Roark, seasonal naturalist at Oconee State Park, leads a group of young park visitors on a nature walk. Organized nature and recreational activities are extremely popular with visitors to South Carolina state parks.





Swimming is one of the more popular pastimes at South Carolina state parks. These youngsters are enjoying themselves at Sesquicentennial State Park's swimming area.

## WHO WILL BE NUMBER ONE IN 1972?

Our attendance totals through the week ending July 9 show Cheraw State Park and Sesquicentennial State Park in close contention for first place in attendance for our fresh-water swimming areas. The heavy use at Cheraw over the Fourth of July weekend put them ahead by 500 swimmers.

The other "biggies" in fresh-water swimming attendance are: Table Rock - 3rd, Paris Mountain - 4th, Myrtle Beach - 5th, and Poinsett - 6th. A quick check through the files shows the winners in recent years to be: 1971 - Sesqui, 1970 - Table Rock, 1969, 1968 and 1967 - Sesqui, and 1966 - Cheraw.

This report does not include an attendance comparison between our fresh-water swimming areas and the swimming areas at our coastal parks. It is difficult to give an accurate count of swimmers using our coastal parks, but all reports indicate overflow crowds this year.



## ECOLOGY, ETC.

In case you think the concern about our environment is new, here is what some famous old-timers, now dead and gone, had to say concerning the subject:

Henry David Thoreau

"Every creature is better alive than dead, men and moose and pine trees, and he who understands it aright will rather preserve its life than destroy it."

Stephen Vincent Benet

"When Daniel Boone goes by, at night,  
The phantom deer arise  
And all lost, wild America  
Is burning in their eyes."

Izaak Walton

"And an ingenious Spaniard says, that the rivers and the inhabitants of the watery elements were made for wise men to contemplate, and fools to pass without consideration."



Seasonal naturalist Ron Ross raises the arm of Jimmy Herring, the 5,000th person to visit the Nature Interpretive Center at Sesqui this summer. Jimmy, who lives at Lugoff, received free passes to carpet golf, pedal boats and the swimming area. This event occurred on the 27th day the center was open. Some 5,666 persons had toured the Nature Center as of July 26. Ron was recently a guest on a Columbia TV program, where he displayed some of the snakes on display at the center. Ron is a rising senior at North Carolina A & T State University, where he is majoring in biology and soil science.



## AIKEN STATE PARK - James H. Taylor

Everyone by this time should be in the midst of a busy summer season. We have really been busy, as I know everyone in the Park system has.

We have had quite a few campers since the first of June. They have been most complimentary about our Park system. The Palmetto Ramblers camping club camped with us June 9-11; they always comment on the neatness of our state parks.

Swimming attendance has been good for the beginning of the summer season. The life guards, bathhouse operator, concession operator and park aide have been a great help to us in our overall operation.

As most of you know, I was promoted to Superintendent here at Aiken. I am fortunate to have a most capable Ranger, Dave Inabinet. Dave is certainly an asset to the Park system.

Please drop by and say "hello" when you're in the Aiken area. We would be glad to have you.



Boy Scout Camporees are experiences that will be remembered for a lifetime. These young men participated in a recent Camporee at Aiken State Park. Primitive camping areas are widely used by such groups.





The recently-completed equestrian show ring at Chester State Park. This excellent facility was built by the local 4-H Club and the Young Farmers Chapter, and is illuminated for night use.

## BARNWELL STATE PARK - Bea Ross

We had our first church services for the summer on Sunday, June 18. The service was conducted on the lawn in front of the concession stand, with some forty attending (mostly teenagers). We are having services every Sunday during the summer season.

We have had reunions every Sunday and many on Saturday. The picnic area is also being used to accommodate its share of the reunions. United States Marshall Elliot Williams and family attended the Ross reunion recently. Mr. Williams is the most decorated man in history. Wallace Hitchcock from the State newspaper was also a visitor at the reunion.

Hurricane Agnes was on the way, but that did not stop our Water Safety Instructor, David Pillinger, from taking his Life-Saving Class out in the water. His class of girls and one boy nearly froze!

The Western square dance classes are being well attended. Our caller, Doug Jernigen of North Augusta, is one of the best. We are hoping to start another class in the fall.



## CHARLES TOWNE LANDING - Claude R. Hall, Jr.

Charles Towne Landing, as of the 1st of July, completed its first full year under the administration of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism. We can honestly say that, in every respect, it has been a successful year.

Revenues were up substantially over the previous year. The Department's objective in the case of this park is to make it self-sustaining. While we missed this target by slightly less than \$30,000 last year, with the new promotional program outlined for the coming year and the trends established in July, we have every reason to believe that the park will show a profit during the coming fiscal year.

A number of capital improvements were made throughout the past year, including 100 new picnic sites, the development of a new boating area with docks, an arched bridge over the lake and a number of pieces of playground equipment. A new contact station has been developed within the old storage area, and a number of attractive tables and chairs have been placed on the patio to create an outside dining area.

A new program of historic interpretation has been initiated, and the first full-scale reproduction of a colonial woodworking shop has been built. This was the first of ten craftsmen's shops to be built over the next few years.

To start the new fiscal year with a "bang," one of the largest Fourth of July celebrations in South Carolina was held at the Landing. The program for the day included fireworks, balloon ascensions, bands, country and western music and a battle re-enactment.

During a 10-hour period, 19,000 people enjoyed barbecue, music and special recreational activities while Indians were being massacred and cannons were booming in the background.



State N.C.H.A. camping clubs are enthusiastic supporters of state parks. This scene was at the spring campout held at Croft State Park.



## DREHER ISLAND STATE PARK - Wallace Brock

People are beginning to find Dreher Island State Park! Many of them cannot wait for the construction of facilities, so in the meantime they are enjoying what we don't have! A number of families have been camping here, bringing their tents and gear by boat! Several families from the Charleston area have camped here on several occasions. They enjoy it, and return whenever they have the opportunity. Our campers over the July Fourth holiday included five families from Charleston.

The bridge and the road up to the site of the parking area have been completed. Preliminary cutting of trees has been done in the camping area. The consulting firm of Wilbur Smith & Associates is running the center line of the road and locating the sites of such facilities as the put-and-take pond, the tackle shop and the boat ramp.

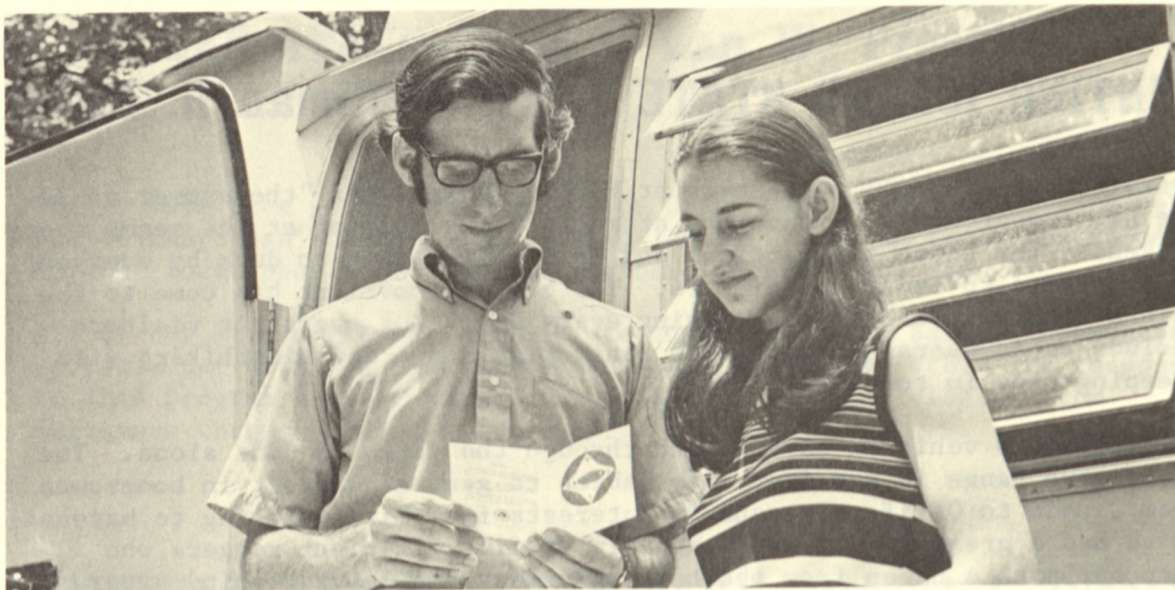
We get quite a few picnickers on Saturdays and Sundays. A number of people have been fishing from the bridge, some with occasional strokes of luck! Park visitors are having to take an alternate route to the park until the bridge construction on Highway 231 is completed. We had a few anxious moments recently when a youngster wandered off the nature trail. However, he really wasn't lost; he knew where he was! That's what he told his Dad, but I'm not sure that the old man believed him!



This young lady will remember dancing with her Daddy the rest of her life! This happy scene was photographed at the spring Campout of S.C. camping clubs affiliated with the National Campers & Hikers Association.



Andy and Melinda Rawls, Baptist missionaries this summer at Oconee.



## **GREENWOOD STATE PARK - Marshall L. Brucke**

The personnel at Greenwood State Park have been very busy this season.

Camping is still very popular at Greenwood, and our revenue shows that it has been more popular than in 1971. The new camping area has been a definite asset to us, and we notice that many people have recently bought campers. The number of new campers proves to us that this form of activity is really on the upswing.

We have had many compliments on the new camping area, and the pastors who hold services at the park each Sunday morning have enjoyed using the recreation building. The pastors are from the Ninety Six area; many of them bring a song leader with them. A number of the pastors are campers as well, and they have mentioned how much they have been enjoying our beautiful state parks.

I have three rangers who help things to run smoothly around here; James Vaughn, who was transferred to Greenwood from Kings Mountain in February; Thomas Bundrick, who joined the staff in January; Lee Chappell, who has seen the park grow and improve in the 22 years he has been a ranger.

Our seasonal personnel have performed yeomen service in assisting us with a well-rounded program of activities for park visitors. They are Larry Feaster, our recreator from Aiken; Thomas Thornton, Waterfront Director and his brother, John, a lifeguard, also from Aiken; lifeguard Kenneth Metts, Saluda; Marion Vaughn and Sherry Brucke, carpet golf; Brenda Bundrick and Debbie Southerland, bathhouse; Derrell Vaughn and Lawrence Marler, campground operators; and Betty Brucke, trading post.

We're having a grand summer, and hope that other South Carolina state parks are also.



## HUNTING ISLAND STATE PARK - Tillman H. Erwin

Everything is in full swing here at Hunting Island for "the summer of 72!" The new campground, our favorite attraction, is bulging at the seams every weekend. The beach is beautiful and in use from dawn to dusk by everyone from surfers to sedate picnickers. The ecology movement has come to the island with more bicycles appearing every day. Our overnight visitors include cabin users, campers with fancy rigs and a few hitchhikers with sleeping bags in tow.

Almost 19,000 vehicles have rolled through the gates in June alone. The passengers range in age from tiny babies to genteel ladies, in hometowns from Canada to California, and in interests from bird-watching to baseball. We've had a great summer with the help of five efficient rangers who keep our park a haven from the hectic workday one leaves behind after crossing the bridge to Hunting Island. Why not come down and see for yourself?

### Quotes from campers:

"Large campsites and the prettiest place in South Carolina. I really enjoy having my family here for a vacation."

Mrs. Mary Woods, Greenville, S.C.

"The campsites are real fine, well spaced and well maintained. Nice having a store near by. A perfect spot for a vacation."

Mrs. Shelva Preston, Atlanta, Ga.

"Real nice campground; really enjoyed ourselves."

Vords Brefer, Wayne City, Ill.

"I like the campground real well. I just wish they had more campsites. We came out three times and had to go back home."

Mrs. Ann Hendricks, Laurel Bay, S.C.

"I was real surprised and didn't know that you had water and electricity at each site. All the grounds are real nice."

George Hoffman M.C.A.S., Beaufort, S.C.

"You have some of the most cooperative people I have ever met. One of your rangers unhooked my trailer for me and helped set it up. I couldn't have done it by myself."

Mrs. John Winn, Columbia, S.C.

"Park aides made our ordeal into a very pleasant affair with some great help. I am looking forward to coming back."

Mrs. J. K. Levy, Columbia, S.C.

(This outstanding report was submitted by Jane Martin, wife of Ranger Lon Martin. Ed.)



## **LEE STATE PARK - Van W. Pressley**

Things have been going smoothly at Lee State Park this summer, although the weather hasn't been to our liking lately. Camping is on the upswing but the local people are not camping here as they once did.

All of our lifeguards this summer are qualified Water Safety Instructors. We began our swimming classes the week following July 4th. The response to this program has been excellent, and we are having classes from Beginners through Senior Lifesaving.

## **MYRTLE BEACH STATE PARK - Robert J. Turner**

Our busy season has really started off with a big boom. We have been completely full in our campground for the past four weeks with our overflow area full also. Our summer personnel and rangers have kept everything going along smoothly.

The fishing pier has been getting quite a bit of use. There have been many flounder caught, along with a seventeen-pound king mackerel being the biggest fish for the week. That was really something to weigh as our scales only go to about twelve pounds, but we finally got the correct weight using three five-pound boxes of shrimp on the scales.

We have been using a double shift of personnel at the swimming pool this year for the first time and everything seems to be working out well. We get many swimmers during the evening hours, and the pool looks great with the lights on.

We were sorry to lose our Assistant Superintendent Freddie Waldt and Ranger Winfred Harris. They were both fine employees and did a good job. We would like to welcome Lou Cato as the new Assistant Superintendent who moved here from Kings Mountain where he was the P.M.A. We would like to congratulate Jerry Price on his promotion to Ranger II. Jerry is doing an excellent job here at Myrtle Beach.

Pier Manager Merl Rhodes is doing an excellent job with the pier and store operations. He seems to be able to keep everything in good order at all times. We have received many comments from the fishermen about the new mercury vapor lights installed on the pier.

The Myrtle Beach Recreation Department has chosen our Tom Wolfe as lifeguard of the week. Tom works as a lifeguard on the beach and he is assigned to the area of the fishing pier. He was named to receive the honor after making six rescues in a two-day period. In one of those rescues he received injuries when he was washed against the pilings of the pier.



## PARIS MOUNTAIN STATE PARK - Eddie H. Miller

Paris Mountain State Park is really busy these days, but that's the way we like it! The new camping area was opened in March; the outstanding features of this 50-site area are the completely dust-free paved roads and a graveyard!

Other activities in the park include the Camp Spearhead day camping program. This day camping project is sponsored by the Greenville Association for Retarded Children; some seventy children are participating in the first session.

The Greenville Ministerial Association is furnishing ministers each Sunday for chapel programs. These services began in mid-June and will continue through Labor Day weekend.

Four hundred persons gathered at the park amphitheater June 10 to witness the annual "Crawdad 300" and its new companion event, the "Turtle 600." The gathering kicked off the summer's recreation program of the Greenville County Recreation Commission. Other events included an archery demonstration by the Greenville Archers and games such as horseshoes, sack races and other interesting activities for the young and "young at heart."

My daughter Betty has returned from the American Red Cross Aquatic School held at Camp Rockmont in Black Mountain, North Carolina. She graduated and received her Water Safety Instructor Certificate on June 13. Betty will use her newly-acquired skills on the waterfront at Paris Mountain. (Betty is the third "youngster" in the Miller family to qualify for a WSI. Eddie Miller, Jr. and Bobby Miller are also members of that elite group. I believe that this is a "first" for the parks system; anyone have more than three children with Water Safety Instructor Certificates? Ed.)



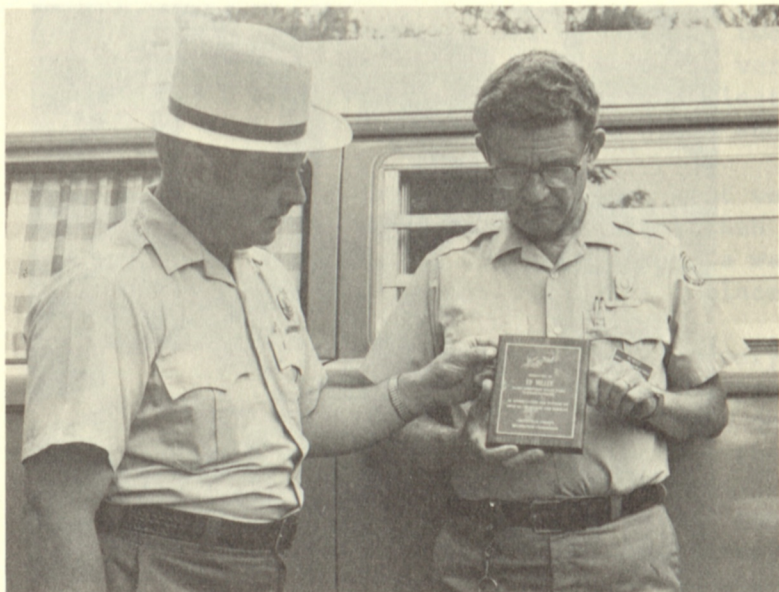
Old tools add a quaint touch in the Kings Mountain trading post.





THEY'RE OFF...! Entries in the "Crawdad 300" make a dash for the finish line. The event at Paris Mountain was sponsored by the Greenville County Recreation Commission to kick off the summer program of activities.

Ranger Walter Evans and Superintendent Eddie Miller admire the plaque presented to him by the Greenville County Recreation "for putting up with us crawdads and turtles."



A contestant at the Southeastern Safari held at Paris Mountain State Park aims at one of the field targets. The course was built and is maintained by the Greenville Archers.



## PLEASANT RIDGE STATE PARK - Leroy L. Smith

We are still alive at Pleasant Ridge after surviving a most unusual winter. The reopening of Highway 11, which runs past the entrance, has increased the number of out-of-state visitors. We are awaiting patiently the completion of the camping area, as we have had a number of park visitors desiring to camp with us. Recent out-of-state campers have come from California, New York, Texas, Tennessee, Florida and Canada.

Y.M.C.A. day camp is being held four days a week. Activities include swimming, hiking and outdoor games. We also began swimming classes June 12, and are holding them Monday through Friday. We have had a number of picnickers, club outings, church groups, class reunions and family groups.

We are still maintaining the Wildcat Wayside Park. We have built a foot-bridge across the stream to the picnic area. This park is also attracting a number of visitors, judging from the amount of trash left behind!

### DISTRICT 1 - Norman Cooler

I want to take this opportunity to thank most of the men in District #1 for the good job they are doing. We have been beset with many personnel problems, but the men who have stayed are to be commended for shouldering the extra load at a time when there was a shortage of personnel. It is encouraging to see the tremendous increase in visitation and revenue in all parks of District #1, with revenue running well over 35% in some parks. I also want to thank members of the Columbia office staff for their interest and comments concerning operations in our different parks.

I know all of you will be glad to learn that "Red" Hall, superintendent at Old Dorchester State Park, is now getting along well and continues to do the same good job as always.

Rivers Bridge Sup't Jim King observes sign on a grill in the camping area with the following message: "Carolina Wren: Please do not disturb! Birds nest in fireplace. Thank you very much; nature lovers from Pennsylvania."





## **SADLERS CREEK STATE PARK - James Rinehart**

The new bathhouse-pavilion, swimming area and picnic area were available for use June first. The area has received many favorable comments from park visitors, despite problems such as erecting a fence and hauling sand for the beach on opening day. No records are being set for attendance, but usage is probably as good if not better than we had expected for the first summer. Everybody seems to comment on how attractive the building is and how nice it is to have a facility like this.

I don't know whether the swimming area is boosting camping attendance, but most of our 25 sites are in use a majority of the time. The camping area has been full every weekend except three during the past three months.

All in all, it seems as if Sadlers Creek is starting to become a real state park. The future looks great with the amount of local use plus great publicity from the Anderson newspapers. We have had two or three articles and photographs of the bathhouse and swimming area in these papers, and people were wanting to reserve the picnic shelters even before they were built! The swimming classes are drawing even more people and it looks as if we will continue them for most of the summer.

Here's a poem about Sadler's Creek State Park, written by Butler T. Shaw, 507 Forest Lane, Belton.

### **SADLER'S CREEK**

The government said, "A camp we'll make  
On the shores of new Hartwell Lake.  
They went to work for many weeks  
And built the park called Sadler's Creek.

The park is off of highway twenty-nine  
With all its facilities so very fine.  
It has running water and electricity too  
Put there to be used by me and you.

The bathrooms here are kept very clean  
And around this area no trash is seen.  
The grass is kept in such a way  
That the children have a place to play.

The swimming area will be very nice  
With the new pavilion, the youth it will entice.  
And when the darkness comes on its way  
The gates are closed 'till the dawn of day.

Mr. Rinehart and Jones are rangers around  
And when they are needed, they're easily found.  
They see that everyone enjoys their stay  
When they come the Sadler's Creek way.



# PERSONNEL CHANGES

## New Personnel

David E. Bailey, Groundskeeper at Givhans Ferry  
John M. Brown, Ranger at Poinsett  
Michael H. Coggins, Ranger at Pleasant Ridge  
Larry M. Duncan, Park Management Assistant at Myrtle Beach  
Ed Estridge, Park Management Assistant at Cheraw  
Joe F. Evans, Ranger at Rivers Bridge  
Thomas M. Felder, Jr., Ranger at Santee  
Dennis Gunter, Park Management Assistant at Kings Mountain  
George L. Hargrove, Ranger at Huntington Beach  
Arthur E. Hinson, Jr., Ranger at Myrtle Beach  
Phillip D. Huggins, Ranger at Baker Creek  
James R. Ivey, Jr., Ranger at Cheraw  
Brooks M. Jordan, Ranger at Kings Mountain  
Winnie Mandrell, Secretary at Columbia Office  
Paul D. Manous, Ranger at Table Rock  
Lon B. Martin, Ranger at Hunting Island  
Danny P. Odom, Ranger at Cheraw  
John S. Rhodes, Park Management Assistant at Table Rock  
Paul E. Ross, Ranger at Myrtle Beach  
Jesse A. Wages, Ranger at Chester  
Eugene M. West, Park Management Assistant at Hunting Island

## Promotions and Transfers

William E. Bullard, Ranger I at Cheraw to Ranger II at Poinsett  
Lewis F. Cato, Jr., Park Management Assistant at Kings Mountain  
to Assistant Superintendent at Myrtle Beach  
Horace W. Craig, Superintendent II at Aiken to Superintendent III  
at Poinsett  
Charles W. Harrison, Park Management Assistant at Cheraw to  
Assistant Superintendent at Kings Mountain  
Lewis D. Holloway, Ranger II at Santee to Assistant Superintendent  
at Santee  
James H. Justice, Ranger I at Cheraw to Ranger II at Huntington  
Beach  
Janeice Lowder, Secretary at Columbia Office to Secretary at Service  
and Supply Center  
Charlie F. Parkman, Superintendent III at Poinsett to Concessions  
Supervisor at Columbia Office  
Jerry D. Price, Ranger I at Myrtle Beach to Ranger II at Myrtle  
Beach  
James H. Taylor, Assistant Superintendent at Kings Mountain to  
Superintendent at Aiken  
Danny L. Turpin, Concessions Supervisor at Columbia Office to  
Chief Recreator at Columbia Office



# RAMBLINGS FROM THE EDITOR

## SMILE....!

A few weeks ago I was sitting with some thirty other campers around a blazing campfire at Paris Mountain State Park. We had been singing songs to the very able accompaniment of the lifeguard's lusty guitar playing. Some of the children had been scouring for firewood and roasting marshmallows (or vice versa!) The last notes of a ballad drifted into silence. We sat there for several minutes without saying a word, each person looking intently at the flickering flames. The spell was finally broken as one camper looked around at the cozy group and exclaimed, "Many people will live their entire lives and never know the joy of sitting around a campfire such as this!"

I spent the afternoon of Father's Day at Givhans Ferry State Park. (My parents live 1,000 miles away in New Hampshire, so a telephone call later that evening had to substitute for a visit!) I watched people of all ages, doing a variety of things...swimming in the river, playing softball, pitching horseshoes, preparing and eating picnic lunches. All of these park visitors had two things in common, 1. they were smiling and 2. they were having fun in their own way. Try as I might, I could not find ONE sad face all afternoon! This proves to me that State Parks ARE fun places, and that this world of ours might be a better place to live if everyone would take time to smile and have fun in their own way.

More recently I took my family on a two-day camping junket to Hunting Island State Park. Our ten-year old daughter Julie became good friends with a young lady from Guyton, Georgia. The two families sat around the dying embers of a campfire until the early hours of morning. We talked about many things, and everyone had a most enjoyable time. The mother from the neighboring state of Georgia remarked, "People staying in motels sure do miss out on a lot. They spend the night in a room, never knowing who is on the other side of the wall, never meeting people like we've done at Hunting Island." Two thoughts come to mind; campers are among the friendliest people in the world, and state parks are among the friendliest places in the world!

I'll see you this weekend at one of our state parks. You'll be able to recognize me...I'll have a big smile on my face!

**Dana L. Sawyer**



## PARK LITES

Division of State Parks and Recreation

Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism

Post Office Box 1358

Columbia, South Carolina 29202

### THIRD CLASS

Dear PRT,  
Kings Mountain State,  
Park is a very very  
good place. I like  
the swimming, and  
boat rides, <sup>and</sup> putt putt. natural  
I have  
stream  
My Family likes it here.  
We <sup>too</sup> come almost every  
weekend. I like to  
do the square dances <sup>other</sup>  
sometimes. I like to <sup>to</sup>  
play basket ball and  
badmitten. Your rangers  
are very nice and helpful

So a very good friend  
from Carol Smith